¶ Orders taken the

1. day of October, in the thirde yere of the raigne of our Soueraigne Ladye, Elizabeth Quene of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande, defender of the fayth. &c. By vertue of her Maieſties letters addreſſed to her hyghneſſe Commiſſioners for cauſes Eccleſiaſticall as foloweth.

An°. 1561.

IN Primis, for the auoyding of muche ſtryfe and contencion, that hath heretofore ryſen among the Quenes Subiectes in diuers partes of the Realm, for the dlyng or tranſpoſynge of the Roode loftes, Fontes and Steppes, within the Queers and Chauncels in euery parryſhe Churche. It is thus decreed and ordeyned, that the Roode loftes, as yet, being at this daye aforeſayde vntranſpoſed, ſhalbe ſo altered, that the vpper parte of the ſame, with the Soller be quite taken downe, vnto the vpper partes of the vautes, and beame runnyng in length ouer the ſayde vautes, by puttyng ſome conuenient creſt vpon the ſaid beame towardes the Churche, with leauyng the ſituation of the ſeates (alwell in the Quere as in the Churche) as heretofore hath ben vſed.

Prouided yet, that where anye Parryſhe,

of theyr owne costes and charges by common consent, wyll pull downe the whole frame, and reedifying agayne the same in Joyners worke (as in diuers Churches within the Citie of London doth appeare) that they may do as they thynke agreable, so it be to the heyght of the vpper beame aforesayde.

Prouided also, that where in any Parrish Churche the sayde Roode lofftes be alreadye transposed, so that there remayne a comely particion betwixte the Chauncell and the Churche, that no alteracion be otherwyse attempted in them, but be suffered in quiete. And where no particion is standyng, there to be one appoynted.

Also that the Steppes which be as yet at this day remaynyng in any Cathedrall, Collegiat, or Parryshe Church, be not styrred nor altered: but be suffered to continue, with the Combes of anye noble or worshypfull personage, where it so chaunceth to be, aswell in Chauncell, Churche, or Chappell. And yf in any Chauncel the Steppes be transposed, that they be not erected agayne, but that the place be decently paued, where the Communion table shall stande out of the tymes of receyuyng the Communion, hauyng theron a fayre lynnen cloth, with some couerynge of Sylke, Buckram, or other such lyke, for the cleane keping of the sayde cloth on the Communion borde, at the cost of the Parryshe.

And further, that there be fired vpon the walle, ouer the sayde Communion borde, the

Tables

Tables of Gods preceptes Imprinted for the sayde purpose.

Prouided yet, that in Cathedral Churches the Tables of the sayde preceptes be more largely and costly paynted out, to the better shewe of the same.

Item that all Chauncels be cleane kepte and repayred within as without, in the windowes and other where as appertayneth.

Item that the Font be not remoued from the accustomed place: And that in Parryshe Churches the Curates take not vppon them to conferre Baptisme in Basens: but in the Font customablye vsed.

Item that there be no destruction or alienacion of the Belles, Steple, or Porche belongyng to anye Parryshe Churche, by the priuate authoritie of any person or persons, without sufficient matter shewed to the Archbyshopp of the preuince, of his and theyr doinges, and by them allowed: Except it be for cause of repayryng the same.

Item that neither the Curates, nor the parentes of the chyldren, alter the common vsed maner for Godfathers and Godmothers to aunswere for the chyldren, nor shall condemne the accustomable vsage in the same.

Item that it shall not be lawfull to anye Ordinary to assigne or enioyne the Parishes to buye any bookes of Sermons or expositions, in any other sorte, then is alreadye, or shalbe hereafter appoynted by Publike authoritie.

Item that there be none other dayes obſerued for holy dayes, or faſtyng dayes, as of dutie and commaundement: But only ſuche holy dayes, as be expreſſed for holye dayes in the Kalender late ſet foorth by the Quenes auctho*r*itie. And none other faſting dayes (to be ſo commaunded) but as the lawes & Proclamacions by the Quenes Maieſtie prouided in the ſame, do appoynt.

Item that the Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, with the Churchwardens, ſhal yearely make and exhibite vnto the Regeſters of the Ordenarye, the names and ſurnames of all perſons maryed, Chriſtened, and buryed, within theyr ſayde parryſhes, by byll indented, with the ſubſcription of theyr handes: Noting the day and yeare of the ſaid Chriſteninges, mariages and buryalles, out of theyr oryginall regeſter kept in cuſtodye, as is appoynted by the Quenes Maieſties Iniunctions.

Item that no Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, of anye exempte Churches, or otherwyſe called lawleſſe Churches, do attempt to conioyne by ſolemnizacion of Matrimonie, any perſons not beyng of his parryſhe, without ſufficient teſtymony of the banes aſkynge in the Churches where they dwell: or otherwyſe be auctho*r*iſed lawfully to mary.

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Cum priuilegio Regiæ Maieſtatis.

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